

REMARKS

Claims 2-8, 10, 12, 14-16, 19-21, 23-25, 29-41, 43, and 45-49 are currently pending in the Application. Pursuant to the telephonic discussion between the Examiner of record and the undersigned, Applicants respectfully amend the specification and claims 21, 23, 40-41, and 48-49. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for conducting a telephonic discussion with the undersigned on February 04, 2008 to go over the basis for rejection in the final office action.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants further wish to thank the Examiner for finding that claims 19-21, 23-25, 40, and 48 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 2-8, 10, 12, 14-16, 29-39, 41, 43, 45-47, and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter(s).

A. For independent claims 8, 12, 14, 29, 46, and their respective dependent claims:

Pursuant to the telephonic discussion between the Examiner of record and the undersigned, Applicants respectfully amend the specification to clarify the claimed subject matter(s) of these claims. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are thus believed to be allowable and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of these claims.

B. For independent claims 21, 23, 40, 48, and their respective dependent claims:

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 21, 23, 40, and 48 are currently amended to clarify the claimed subject matter(s) and are believed to have overcome the rejections pursuant to the telephonic discussion with the Examiner of record on February 04, 2008.

Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of these claims.

C. **For independent claims 41, 49, and their respective dependent claims:**

Applicants respectfully submit that both claims 41 and 49 are currently amended to clarify the claimed subject matter(s) of these claims pursuant to the telephonic discussion with the Examiner of record on February 04, 2008. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of these claims.

CONCLUSION


If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this response, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

To the extent that any arguments and disclaimers were presented to distinguish prior art, or for other reasons substantially related to patentability, during the prosecution of any and all parent and related application(s)/patent(s), Applicant(s) hereby explicitly retracts and rescinds any and all such arguments and disclaimers, and respectfully requests that the Examiner re-visit the prior art that such arguments and disclaimers were made to avoid.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. 50-4047, referencing billing number 7035032001. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or to charge any underpayment to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. 50-4047, referencing billing number 7035032001.

Respectfully submitted,

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